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PTO/SB/30 (10/2001)

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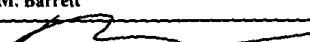
<b>REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL</b>  Address to: Commissioner for Patents Box RCE Washington, DC 20231	Application Number	09/230,623
	Filing Date	June 14, 1999
	First Named Inventor	May et al.
	Art Unit	1761
	Examiner Name	S. Weinstein
Attorney Docket Number	112701-029	

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application  
 Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8.

1. **Submission required under 37 CFR §1.114**
- a.  Previously submitted
    - i.  Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR §1.116 previously filed on January 31, 2002  
 (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
    - ii.  Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_
    - iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
  - b.  Enclosed
    - i.  Amendment/Reply      iii.  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
    - ii.  Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)      iv.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
2. **Miscellaneous**
- a.  Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR §1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR§1.17(i) required)
  - b.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR §1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR §1.114 when the RCE is filed.
- a.  The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 02-1818
    - i.  RCE fee required under 37 CFR §1.17(e)
    - ii.  Extension of time fee (37 CFR §§1.136 and 1.17)
    - iii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_
  - b.  Check in the amount of \$ 740.00 enclosed
  - c.  Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.**

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED**

Name (Print / Type)	Robert M. Barrett	Registration No. (Attorney / Agent)	30,142
Signature			
	Date	April 10, 2002	

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark

Name (Print / Type)	Robert J. Buccieri	
Signature		
	Date	April 10, 2002

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 0.2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND Fees and Completed Forms to the following address: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231.

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TRANSMITTAL LETTER  
(General - Patent Pending)

Docket No.  
0112701-029

In Re Application Of: May et al.

Serial No.	Filing Date	Examiner	Group Art Unit
09/230,623	June 14, 1999	S. Weinstein	1761

Title:

MULTI-LAYERED CANNED PET FOOD



TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Transmitted herewith is:

Transmittal Letter (General - Patent Pending); Response to Final Office Action (12 pages) and Postcard Return Receipt.

in the above identified application.

- No additional fee is required.
- A check in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ is attached.
- The Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. 02-1818 as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.
  - Charge the amount of \_\_\_\_\_
  - Credit any overpayment.
  - Charge any additional fee required.

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Dated: January 31, 2002

*[Signature]*  
Signature

Robert M. Barrett (Reg. No. 30,142)  
BELL, BOYD & LLOYD LLC  
P. O. Box 1135  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

I certify that this document and fee is being deposited on 01/31/02 with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail under 37 C.F.R. 1.8 and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): May et al.  
Appl. No.: 09/230,623  
Filed: June 14, 1999  
Title: MULTI-LAYERED CANNED PET FOOD  
Art Unit: 1761  
Examiner: S. Weinstein  
Docket No.: 112701-029

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Peter Ancht B  
05-02-2002  
JW #  
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RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

Please enter the following Response in the above-identified patent application:

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 10, with the following rewritten paragraph:

B1  
Alternatively, the substantially solid foodstuff may be cooked rice or noodles, or both. In this case, the settable foodstuff may be freshly cooked rice or noodles. Upon cooling, the freshly cooked rice or noodles form a substantially solid layer. If desired, suitable gelling or thickening agents, for example gums such as kappa-carrageenan, locust bean gum, guar gum and xanthan gum may be added to the rice or noodles. Usually no more than about 2% by weight of gelling or thickening agent is needed.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

B2  
Alternatively, the substantially sold foodstuff may be an aspic; for example an aspic which contains cooked vegetable pieces. The aspic may be prepared as is conventional. Additional ingredients such as sugars, salts, spices, seasoning, flavoring agents, minerals, and the like may also be added to aspic. The amount of additional ingredients used is preferably such that they make up bout 0.25% to about 5% by weight of the aspic.